

A COMPREHENSIVE MAP OF NEW YORK CITY-OWNED WATERFRONT PROPERTIES

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In 1991, the New York City Department of Ports and Trade was eliminated and the jurisdiction of its waterfront properties was transferred to over ten separate city agencies, including a large percentage to the City's Department of Business Services (DBS). The New York City Economic Development Corporation (EDC) is contracted by DBS to manage and maintain their portfolio of waterfront structures. EDC has taken a proactive approach to the management of these properties by developing a standardized waterfront inspection program and a structural inspection database.

In order to properly locate and prioritize these properties, EDC has developed a comprehensive GIS-based map of all City-owned waterfront properties. The map was created using existing NYC GIS data, supplemented with field assessments of the waterfront structures, historic maps, and reports. Field teams used DGPS data acquisition and their knowledge of the NYC waterfront to create a shapefile locating the precise position of the land/water boundary, along with an assessment of its structural configuration and general condition. Using this waterfront shapefile, along with tax block and lot parcels and current aerial images, EDC is able to obtain the most complete understanding of the city's waterfront.

Using ESRI MapObjects LT, EDC developed a customized interface to the waterfront data which displays data specific to the user's needs. Properties can be searched by tax block and lot, responsible city agency, or structural configuration. Using Microsoft ADO, the application can also access data existing in EDC's structural inspection database, such as prior waterfront inspection date or latest inspection documents.